



*Pacific Islands  
Area – West  
CSP Fact Sheet*

United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

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**Conservation Security Program 2008**

*Natural Resources Conservation Service  
Contacts for  
2008 Watersheds*

**Southern Guam Watershed, Guam**

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*Photo of Fouha shoreline, area within the Southern Guam Watershed.*

**Purpose**

The Conservation Security Program (CSP) is a voluntary conservation program that supports ongoing stewardship of private agricultural lands by providing payments for maintaining and enhancing natural resources. CSP identifies and rewards those farmers and ranchers who are meeting the highest standards of conservation and environmental management on their operations.

CSP provides financial and technical assistance to promote the conservation and improvement of soil, water, air, energy, plant and animal life, and other conservation purposes on Tribal and private working lands. Working lands include cropland, grassland, prairie land, improved pasture, and range land, as well as forested land that is an incidental part of an agriculture operation.

**Sign-up Period for 2008 CSP**

The sign-up period to submit application forms for the Conservation Security Program in Fiscal year 2008 is **April 18, 2008 through May 16, 2008**. Applicants are encouraged to complete the self-assessment workbook and schedule an interview as early in the sign-up period as possible to allow for comprehensive development of their contract offer.

**Person and Land Eligibility**

The producer and the producer's operation first must meet the basic eligibility criteria:

- The land must be privately owned, Hawaiian Homelands or long-term state leased lands and the majority of the land must be located within the selected watershed.
- The applicant must be in compliance with highly erodible and wetland provisions, have an active interest in the agricultural operation, and have control of the land for the life of the contract.
- The applicant must share in the risk of producing any crop or livestock and be entitled to a share in the crop or livestock marketed from the operation.

All applicants must meet the following minimum tier eligibility:

- For Tier I, meet minimum soil quality and water quality criteria on part of the agricultural operation

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## Conservation Security Program 2008

*"Rewarding the Best and Motivating the Rest..."*

### Southern Guam Watershed



For more information on the Conservation Security Program in the Pacific Islands – West Area, visit our website at:

[www.hi.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp.html](http://www.hi.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp.html)

- For Tier II, meet minimum soil quality and water quality criteria on all of the agricultural operation and agree to address one additional resource by the end of the contract period.
- For Tier III, the producer must have addressed all applicable resource concerns on all eligible land uses on the entire agricultural operation

## Application Process and Contract Requirements

1. The 2008 CSP sign-up is offered in the **Southern Guam Watershed** on Guam.  
*Note: CSP is offered on an eight year rotational basis to each eligible watershed on Guam and in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.*
2. Producers complete a self-assessment, including description of conservation activities on their operations, to help determine eligibility for CSP. The self-assessment is available from: <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/csp> and at the NRCS Guam Field Office as a printed workbook.
3. Eligible producers in the selected watershed complete the self-assessment workbook and schedule an interview to submit an application at their local NRCS office.
4. Based on the application, description of current conservation activities, and the interview, NRCS determines CSP eligibility and program tier and enrollment category.

## Program Payments

Applicants may submit only one application for each sign-up. Producers who are participants in an existing CSP contract are not eligible to submit another application.

CSP contract payments include one or more of the following:

- An annual stewardship component for the existing base level conservation treatment.
- An annual existing practice component for the maintenance of existing conservation practices.
- An enhancement component for exceptional conservation effort and additional conservation practices or activities that provide increased resource benefits beyond the prescribed level.

Total payments are determined by the tier of participation, conservation treatments completed, and the acres enrolled:

- For Tier I, contracts are for 5 years; maximum payment is \$20,000 annually.
- For Tier II, contracts are for 5 to 10 years; maximum payment is \$35,000 annually.
- For Tier III, contracts are for 5 to 10 years; maximum payment is \$45,000 annually.

An individual or entity with an average adjusted gross income of over \$2.5 million for the preceding three years may not receive CSP payments unless 75% of that income is from farming, ranching, or forestry interests.

## Benefits

CSP helps producers maintain conservation stewardship and implement additional enhancement activities that provide added environmental benefit, while creating powerful incentives for other producers to meet those same standards of conservation performance.